



Central South Dakota Outdoor Report

Wildlife Division – Region 2



Brule/Buffalo Counties

Diana Landegent



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below

Lake Francis is currently open due to the nice weather lately. Fishermen have been catching nice sized walleyes from 15” to occasionally 24”. Fishermen have reported fishing with a gig and minnow in water 20’ to 10’ from Crow Creek down to the mouth of the White River. Many fishermen have been pulling plugs along the shorelines. The walleyes are currently at the peak of spawning. Shoreline fishermen have been successful lately in the Chamberlain area.

The boat ramps in the Chamberlain area are open.

The fish cleaning stations in the Chamberlain area and Ft. Thompson are now open. The minimum length restriction is 15 inches with one walleye over 20 inches. The daily possession limit is 4 walleyes and 8 walleyes possession.

The area between the Interstate Bridge and Railroad Bridge known as the dredge hole is now closed until April 30th.

South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks are advising fishermen to pull their plugs when leaving the boat ramps to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species. We are advising fishermen to dump or drain the water from their bait buckets when they leave the boat ramps as well.

REMINDER: Purchase your 2015 fishing license. The 2014 fishing license expired January 31st.

Get out and enjoy the nice weather!



Hunting Report:

Canada goose season closed February 15th.

The light goose conservation order opened statewide February 14 and closes May 3rd. This season includes snows, blue and Ross’ geese. Canada geese, white-fronted geese or any other goose species cannot be taken. Snow geese stuck around for a couple days last week, but no reports of snows geese have been reported in the area lately.

Archery turkey season opens April 4th – May 17th. Prairie turkey season opens April 11th through May 17th. There are approximately 72 leftover turkey tags for Brule County. There have been reports of turkeys seen at Boyer and Brule Bottom.

Campbell County

Doug DeLaRoi



Fishing Report: *See Missouri River report below*

Some Northern and catfish being caught from shore, walleye bite is slow. Small ponds have had no use.



Hunting Report:

With the high fire dangers remember to be extra careful when recreating outdoors.

Corson/Dewey Counties

Shawn Madison:



Fishing Report:

Pudwell Dam: This location has some good fish populations. This includes several year classes of walleye, largemouth bass, crappie, and perch. The fishing activity has been low in this area.

Morristown East: There is no activity at Morristown East. The stocking efforts the past two years have been successful for largemouth and crappies. The fish size is small with some northern pike.

Morristown West: No activity in the Morristown West area. The perch stockings have been successful ranging from 8-10 inches.

Trail City Dam: There is little to no activity with and a lot of small northern pike showing up in surveys.

Little Moreau #1: There is very low activity. There isn't much biting in this area.

Little Moreau #2: People are catching nice size rainbow trout on lures and corn with salmon eggs.

Isabel Lake: There is some activity. People have been saying largemouth bass have been biting. There is a nice population of bluegill, with some large being caught.

Eagle Butte Dam: There is no activity at the Eagle Butte Dam. The year classes of bluegill look very good ranging from 6-8 inches. Bass and Perch numbers are very good as well.



Hunting Report:

Spring turkey will opened this weekend 04/11/15. Turkey numbers are still low in the area but a small increase over last year. Get permission from the landowner before hunting on land.

Charles Mix/Douglas Counties

Jeff Martin



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below

Fish in the Platte area are spawning now; anglers have been having success pitching jigs and crank baits to the bank in the mornings. Afternoon's anglers have been vertical jigging, bottom bouncing or pulling crank baits in deeper water. Smallmouth should be hitting in the shallows anytime now.



Hunting Report:

Turkey season is underway for shotgunners and Bowhunter. Crow season is still open through the end of the month.

Gregory County

Hans Walleser



Fishing Report:

Fishing has been good in the Chamberlain area. The bite should only pick up as the water continues to warm up. The Platte Winner Bridge area should produce a good bite in a few more weeks. Walleye minimum size limit is 15 inches and only 1 fish allowed over 20 inches. Daily limit is 4 and possession limit is 8.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to Conservation Officer Hans Walleser at 605-775-2475 or PO Box 433 Burke, SD 57523. Have fun. Be safe.



Hunting Report:

Turkey season is open. Make sure you have a valid tag for the unit you are hunting. Remember to tag the leg and notch and sign your tag. There are no longer any left over licenses for Gregory County.

Hyde/Hand Counties

Cory Flor



Fishing Report: *See Missouri River report below*
No Report



Hunting Report:
No Report

Hughes County

John Murphy



Fishing Report:

Fishing on Lake Sharpe has been slow to fair at West Bend, Antelope Creek area, Fort George, Bridges and Stilling Basin. Seem to be catching more fish in the bridge area of Pierre; anglers are reminded to measure walleyes on Lake Sharpe as there is currently a 15 inch minimum. Northern Fishing has been decent in the back of bays on Lake Oahe, some up to 20 lbs.



Hunting Report:

Turkey hunters are having fair success.

Jones County

Brian Ridgway



Fishing Report: *See Missouri River Report below*
No Report



Hunting Report:

No Report

Lyman County

Brian Ridgway



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below
No Report



Hunting Report:
No Report

Potter County

Brad Saltsman



Fishing Report: See Missouri River report below:

No Report



Hunting Report:
No Report

Stanley County

Josh Thompson



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below.

Twin Dams – Little activity observed.

Hayes Lake – Fishing activity has recently picked up a little.

Ft. Pierre Nat. Grasslands – Little activity observed.

Lake Oahe – Fishing activity has been fairly slow. Pike fishing has been decent lately in some of the bays from West Shore up to Chantier Creek.

Lake Sharpe – Fishermen have been catching some walleye by boat and from shore, but struggling to find keeper-size fish. The stilling basin and the railroad bridge continue to be popular spots at this time.



Hunting Report:

Spring Turkey: Stanley County offers some neat opportunities to harvest the Merriam's Turkey. Remember that permission is always required to hunt private land in South Dakota. It is best to get permission before applying for a tag.

For any further information, Game, Fish & Parks hunting and fishing handbooks are available at local licensing agents; or you can visit the SD Game, Fish & Parks website at www.gfp.sd.gov.

Sully County

Andy Schmahl



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below.

No Report



Hunting Report:

No Report

Tripp/Todd/Mellette Counties

Chris Dekker



Fishing Report: See Missouri River Report below

The area stock dams are really picking up. Anglers are having good luck fishing in this area.



Hunting Report:

The turkey season is in high gear. Toms are strutting and hunters are having good success.

Walworth County

Doug DeLaRoi/Brad Saltsman



Fishing Report: See Missouri River report below

Some Northern and catfish being caught from shore, walleye bite is slow. Small ponds have had no use.



Hunting Report:

With the high fire dangers remember to be extra careful when recreating outdoors.

Missouri River report:

Lake Oahe and Lake Sharpe

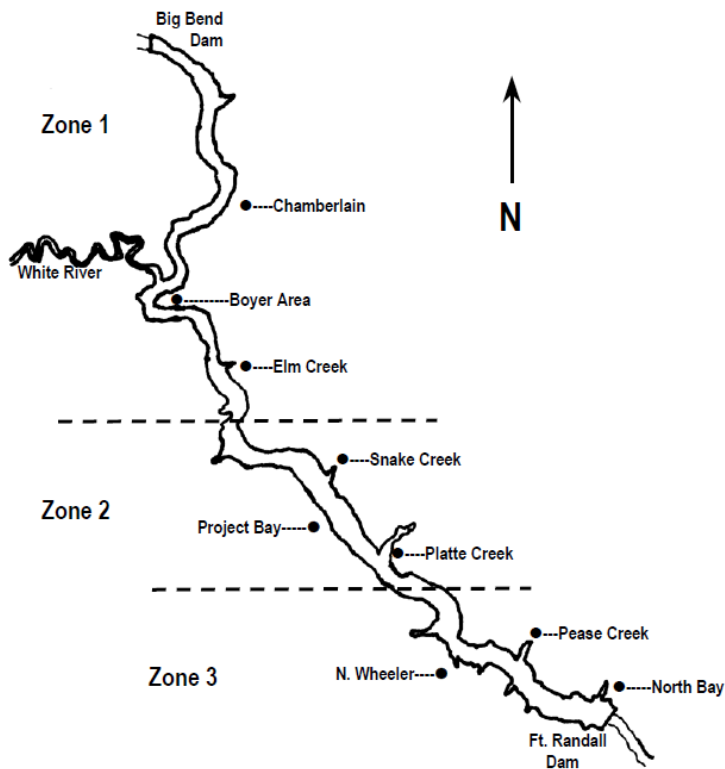
Kyle Potter

Lake Oahe

No Report

Lake Sharpe

No Report



Lake Francis Case

Gary Knecht

Zone 1

Fishing activity in the upper third has been busy. Shore anglers are doing well around Chamberlain. Boat anglers are having success from Kiowa to Crow Creek and in the White River area.

SIZE RESTRICTION - There is a 15 inch minimum length limit for walleye/sauger and only one walleye/sauger may be kept over 20 inches.

CLOSED AREA - The area between the railroad bridge and the I-90 bridge in Brule and Lyman counties is closed to fishing from Dec 1 through April 30.

Zone 2 and 3 – Fishing activity has increased with both boat and shore anglers catching a few fish.